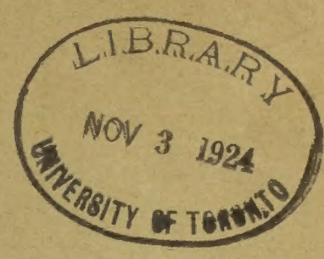


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May, 1901.



THE ONTARIO TORY

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.. The Ontario Tory ..

Vol. 1

MAY 20th, 1901

No. 1

A Word for Old Ontario.

F ALL the stars in the great constellation of Confederation there is one that is greater than all—and the name of that star is Ontario.

The other provinces are great. Quebec is great. Her foot was first to tread the soil of Canada, when the old barbarian passed away. Her arm was first to build its strongest city, her hand was first to hew out of the wilderness a strong abiding place for civilization, child of old France, a stately province, gallant in war and chivalrous in peace, faithful always to an ancient memory but loyal forever, with a deeper loyalty to the new land she buildeth for her children—Quebec is great.

Great are the provinces by the sea—Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island. Before the doors of the Dominion were thrown open the sons of the sea had asserted their greatness by giving to the world a breed of men whose eloquence and genius did them honor. And since with head erect they entered in they still have given to the service of the nation men who are worthy of the old renown of pre-Confederation days.

Great are the sons of the prairies. Far into the depths of the prairies the boys of old Ontario went forth to build new provinces and found new cities, and wake the sombre silence of the plains with the voices of strong men and stately women and the laughter of merry children, and they have builded well out in the West and well and strongly did they lay the foundations of the Prairie Province, Manitoba, and hard and long they toiled till the pride of the plains waxed mighty with years and knocked at the door of Confederation whose earlier provinces with united voices all claimed her entrance and proclaimed that Manitoba was great.

Great are the eagles of the West—the sons of the mountains are mighty. Beyond the plains, beyond hills, beyond the rivers, rises the joy of the Rockies, the pride of the Pacific—stately British Columbia. Son of the mountains and nursling of the ocean, the regal province waxes strong with years and with an ever watchful eye on Asia guards with iron arm the western gateway of the great Confederation.

But greater than all is Ontario

The finest seed in all the world sown in the finest soil is ripening in Ontario to-day. The race from whom Ontarians have sprung is a race unique. Not only Anglo-Saxon and United Empire Loyalist—the province is chiefly settled by that remarkable people the Scotch, Irish from the North of Ireland. The peculiar characteristic of this people is that they combine the cool-headed practical sagacity of the Scot with warmth the passion, the emotional fervour and audacity of the Irish. Daring but subtle, brave but wise, poets and also philosophers, eagles and lions too—winged for great flights but steady on their feet—a small people in a small country they have come to America to be a great people in a great country. This is the race that dominates America to-day. McKinley is of them—but he is too Scotch, Bryan is of them but he is too Irish. The race is better balanced in Ontario.

It is not to heredity alone however, that Ontario owes her greatness. Every farmer knows the difference between a seed sown in an old and barren soil and a seed sown in a soil that is fertile and new. We have used the term old in its application to Ontario rather as a term of endearment than with reference to time for the land is young and strong with the splendid strength of a soil untilled for countless centuries. The influence of soil and climate in building the body of a people has been too much underated. The people of Ontario are a race possessing mental and physical characteristics not found in the peoples of Europe. The soil and climate of Ontario are the finest in the world, because the best balanced. Here heat and cold, dryness and moisture, light and darkness, are equitably distributed. The cold north wind brings iron winters which brace the nerves of men with steel-like strength. The warm wind of the south brings fruitful summers which wake warm passions in the hearts of men, and thus heredity and soil, winter and summer, time and place, combine to build a perfect people in Ontario.

And time will show the spirit of this people is not unworthy of its habitation. The conquering spirit of the pioneers who fought the wilderness and conquered it, who fought the invader and conquered him, who fought disunion and conquered it, will fight and conquer in days to come all powers who seek by secret

craft or open force to stay the development of the royal province. Come woe or weal, come peace or war, come dark adversity or fair prosperity—whatever game the gods may put upon the boards the sons of old Ontario are ready.

And when the days that try men's hearts arrive. When one by one the nations of the earth like hungry tigers lusting for their prey leap at the throat of Britain, when from the campfires of the Russian steppe the myriad legions from the north sweep forth to rivet chains and slavery on mankind and England guardian of the liberties of men, sore-stricken with the

weight of many wars stretches a bleeding hand across the seas to beckon her splendid children to her aid—up from a lion's lair in old Ontario the new-born race will rise to snatch the banner from her failing hand and plant it on the minarets of Moscow.

And when the long roll of the drums dies out in the tents of the human—and the voice of a ruler of nations bids the nations war no more, the sons of the stars will return to the cities of destiny to rear the capital of a mightier Britain on the soil of old Ontario.

Ontario is good enough for us.

The Redemption of Ontario.

THE ONTARIO TORY which makes its first appearance to-day has been published for the realization of certain specific and clearly defined purposes which were briefly declared in its prospectus.

"In publishing this paper at the present time the promoters have been largely influenced by the fact that the great Province of Ontario, which is equal in population and wealth to all the other provinces of Canada combined, and superior to them all in political intelligence, has not received the recognition to which this superiority entitles it—either from the country or the Conservative party.

Ontario is now the Conservative stronghold in Canada. The City of Toronto is the logical headquarters of the party—the Conservative capital where the forces of the party should be concentrated and from which they should be directed, where the principles of its platform should be formulated and from which the light of its policy should shine forth over the whole Dominion, to kindle in the hearts of all Canadians that spirit of splendid fidelity to Conservative ideals which thrills the heart of young Ontario to-day. It is here that a clarion voice should be raised to vindicate the principles of the new Conservatism and voice the growing aspirations of Ontario.

Ontario stands to-day at the crisis of its history. It stands on the eve of a great political contest in which the fate of the province hangs in the balance and with it the fate of the Conservative party for many years to come. It is time to close up the ranks and get ready for battle, to throw off that intellectual lethargy which paralyses the party, to kindle in the heart of old Ontario a new electric fire, to bring the dark ages of Ontario history to a close and emancipate the province from the senile grip of the hierarchy of political Pharaohs, who for thirty years have held its people in bondage.

The purposes of THE TORY may therefore be specified as follows:

- (1) To redeem the Province of Ontario.
- (2) To vindicate the position of Ontario as the paramount province of Confederation.

- (3) To vindicate the right of the Ontario Conservatives to be the dominant influence in the councils of the party.

Whatever degree of prosperity Ontario enjoys to-day has been attained, not through the assistance, but in spite of the government, and is due to the great natural energy of a people whose inherent vitality could not be crushed, but found an outlet and a means of promoting the public weal through innumerable forms of individual enterprise in the fields of business and industrial activity.

With a strong aggressive and constructive government in control of Ontario a new and golden era would dawn for the grand province. The clouds would roll away, the mists would rise, the fetters of fossilism would fall to the ground, the epoch of official stagnation would pass away. A strong government would co-operate with a strong people to build up a mighty province. Great enterprises would be undertaken. Undeveloped portions of the province would be opened up. Individual efforts to promote the general weal would be encouraged. The government would no longer wait with sleepy eyes and helpless hands for someone else to take the initiative and make the province prosperous, but would initiate and inaugurate great movements in political, industrial, and intellectual spheres to make Ontario mighty among nations. We can readily conceive of a policy which would inaugurate an epoch of unparalleled prosperity for this province, open up great fields of enterprise for its people, wake up its sleeping towns and quiet villages, populate its undeveloped territories and send a thrill of fierce electric energy through its industrial arteries and commercial veins and make Ontario a mighty irresistible magnet to draw to its heart the life blood of two continents. To establish such a policy as that is the mission of the Conservative party, and in order that it may be soon established it is the duty of every lover of this province to unite with the great creative party for the redemption of Ontario.

Fortune Will Honor the Brave.

Well have they fought, and bravely, His Majesty's loyal opposition on the floor of the Ontario legislature.

The task was hard, the way was long, the hour of victory long postponed but they fought on and never faltered for thirty years or more. Luck was not with them, fate frowned upon them and time was not their friend—but they fought on. The foes of Ontario were before them, the friends of Ontario were behind them, the love of Ontario was in their hearts, and faith in Ontario inspired them—and they fought on.

Like a knight of old romance, gallant and brave and true, for many weary years, a stately figure towered at their head and showed them how to fight. Fearless in battle, wise in council and ever to the front in loyal endeavor, he flung ideas with careless prodigality around to foes as well as friends, and from the very pit in which he stood, upheld the throne he could not win by teaching a thoughtless government to think.

W. R. Meredith fought the fight in vain. We will not query why. The old wound rankles, but the old hate fades. Time seems to whisper men a deeper wisdom and love with tender hand folds ancient banners and calls a halt to history. We see to-day that there are other issues in Ontario than the blood feuds imported from over the seas. We see that the mind of the people is moulded by a mightier power than the schoolmaster and his rod, and we see something more subtle than the things we speak when we lay an ancient banner gently to one side and smiling rise on deeper thoughts to victory.

But if from one extreme we fly let us not rush to the other. A Protestant leader who appeals to the people as a Protestant and not as a Conservative is not so great a menace to Ontario as a Catholic leader who appeals to the province as a Catholic and not as a Conservative. The apothegm about "not to swap horses before crossing a stream," is most suggestive here. A stream like that might be as bloody as the Boyne itself, for Ontario is not Catholic.

No. His Majesty's loyal opposition in Ontario unfold no ancient banner, make no appeal to prejudice. They are not Protestant or Catholic. They have a record of their own. They have fought hard to make it, and they are proud to maintain it. It is a record of hard and honest work along the lines of political, economic and legislative reform to improve the condition of the great Province of Ontario and promote the welfare and happiness of its people. By this record they are prepared to stand or fall, and on it they will with perfect confidence appeal to the people in the next election.

And what a proud record it is. The wisest laws upon the statute book of Ontario to-day were placed there on the initiative and at the suggestion of the

Conservative members of the legislature. Who could count the long list of beneficent measures introduced to the legislature by the members of the opposition and to-day incorporated in the laws of the province because a government which had not the intelligence to originate them had the intelligence to appropriate them.

The battle which the Conservative party have fought in Ontario has not been a purely intellectual contest fought out on its political merits alone in which great issues were at stake and victory rested with the party which presented the strongest ideas to the people. It has rather been the battle of a party with ideas against a party with money. It has been the battle of a party of principle against a party with a purse. It has been the long, heroic struggle of men of intellect and ideas against men whose chief conception of success was to distribute patronage among the people and utilize official means and ends to lure the electors from their allegiance to a party of high principle and conscientious endeavor. The reports of the election trials give some idea of what the opposition had to fight besides ideas in Ontario.

For thirty years the banner of the Conservative party drooped at the mast in Ontario. Brave arms were here to hold it up, brave minds were here to justify it, brave hearts were here to battle for it—but still it drooped. The influence of a Conservative government at Ottawa was thrown on its side,—but still it drooped. The power of a militant party press was asserted to maintain it—but still it drooped. The voices of a numerous multitude of orators were uplifted to exalt it—but still it drooped, it drooped—but not forever.

Time passed away. The brilliant figure of the old time leader gave up the fight and passed despairingly to the bench. The Conservative government at Ottawa was defeated at the polls and the dark cloud of misfortune which hung over this party in Ontario extended its sombre dimensions over the whole Dominion, and still more mournfully than ever that old flag hung drooping at the mast.

At last a man arose—unknown to Ontario, but known well to that brave little band of political heroes who for many years in the still watches of the night and in the early hours of the morning had fought with never ceasing vigilance, the battle of the party in the in the legislature;—Out of their decimated ranks a man arose to lead, at the request of those who knew him best and fought beside him, James Pliny Whitney took upon himself the mantle of leadership in Ontario. At first his accession to the premier place in the party excited no enthusiasm outside the house. The citizen of a small eastern town—a comparative stranger

to Ontario, and little known in Toronto, his advancement awakened little interest. Man said he was the best that could be found in a small aggregation of ordinary men. He was a good speaker, perhaps the strongest in a weak legislature, but not the strongest in the province. But what did it matter, the old flag lay drooping at the mast—misfortune dogged the footsteps of Conservatism, the party was out of power, and its leader was disconsolate—what did it matter whether Smith or Jones or Whitney led them now—anything would do them in defeat—anyone was good enough to perish.

The house dissolved. The fight came on. The government went to the county. Like a tired man awakened from his slumbers, the heavy eye-lids of conservatism were lifted to gaze with startled wonder at a leader who spoke of hope and victory. The man was mad. Could he succeed where others failed? Could he inscribe a silver lining on the cloud which hung for thirty years above the party. Could he coax favors from the frowning heavens or kindle victory in a doubting province.

The fight came on. The Conservative party led by its intrepid leader flung itself fiercely into the fight. It had no money. It had little support from the men who had backed it of old. It had no certain assurance of victory, no material hope of success. It had nothing but a good cause, a gallant heart and a leader who never despaired. With these it went into the contest—and suddenly Ontario awoke. What was the matter? What did it mean? Was there a fight going on? Was somebody fighting the battle of Conservatism as the brave hearts fought of old—as John A. fought, as Cartier fought, in the days when to fight was to win and to conquer? Was someone unfolding a drooping banner and flinging it proudly to the winds of victory? Was someone kindling the spirit of hope in the heart of Conservatism? Who was it? How

was it? Would he win? A thrill passed through the heart of Ontario, a spirit of sudden enthusiasm aroused the Conservative party to a sense of its duty to the leader that dared "Whitney and victory."

Who spoke? Who uttered the magic word? A city? A party? A province? The people took up the cry and from one end of Ontario to another, in village and farm and city street the chorus of victory re-echoed. "Whitney will win."

The battle was over, the polls were counted, a shattered government gathered the remnants of its strength together and announced the result to the people.

A majority of one.

Well done Whitney—what no one else could do for thirty years he had done well. Give credit where credit is due. He had been daring and the people rewarded his daring. He had been brave and fortune had honored the brave. What did it matter if they held the shadow of power for a time. The substance of victory was his who had shattered the rock of Liberal prestige in a province where it had been invulnerable for thirty years.

Why does the Ross administration fear to face the people? Why does it shrink back trembling from the gulf of dissolution like a dying man from the jaws of death? Why does it stretch out weak and trembling hands to heaven like a drowning man sinking in a stormy ocean to cry in the last accents of despair, "Another month, O God—another month."

Ontario knows why.

Well have they fought and bravely—His Majesty's loyal opposition in the legislature of Ontario:—and fortune will honor the brave.

Celebrate the Day.

The proposal to celebrate Dominion Day this year with special functions in Toronto is one which should awake a thrill of swift and ardent sympathy in every patriotic heart and receive the active and enthusiastic support of all parties and classes of the community.

Yes celebrate the day for it is holy—the royal birthday of a royal race. There is no other day more sacred to a nation than the day when it emerged out of the chaos of scattered and divided states and was born into national being. If ever the morning stars sang together since the very beginning of things their voices were surely in music uplifted on that most memorable and august occasion when there came into being that great Dominion which yet may dominate the earth.

Justice has never been done to Canada by the men who held the helm. The land is here but where are

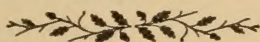
the people. A small but splendid seed sown in the heart of the American continent is coming to splendid fruition in Ontario and the other provinces are waxing strong with years—but where are the multitudes who should fill in our vacant prairies, where are the unbuilt cities, where are the unmade provinces, where the hundred million homes which should stud the soil of Canada as the bright stars stud the heavens? The future will bring them perhaps, but should we not hasten that future. This country has enemies without as well as foes within. Already the Russians are organizing the yellow horde not far from the gates of Confederation and erecting mighty fortifications within easy march of Alaska. Who knows the day the Cossacks may sweep across from Asia into America and pour down into British Columbia as the locusts poured into Egypt, to devastate and destroy. We have had too much pea-

nut politics in this country. We need strong statesmen with deep seeing prescience to outmanoeuvre the enemies of the Dominion and anticipate events which threaten its existence by deep consummate statecraft, and everlasting vigilance.

The parties who united to make Confederation, must unite again to preserve it, and having got the land prepared for settlement they must proceed at once to see that it is populated by the finest breed on earth. England to-day has twenty million more of a population than the soil of the country can sustain. Let them migrate to Canada. There are another ten or twenty million in the United States who would emigrate northwards if proper inducements were offered. If

the Liberal party is not prepared to take up this matter the Conservative party to whom it seems to be reserved to originate all great executive measures that tend to the well being of the nation—should prepare a policy on the matter at once and submit it to the people.

Apart altogether from its national significance there are special and particular reasons why the Tory party should celebrate Dominion Day. The hand of Conservatism was powerfully present at the building of Confederation and the genius of Conservatism like a beneficent deity presided over the inauguration of the nation. Therefore let all Conservatives step forward and show the Liberals how to honor Canada on Dominion Day.



THE VISIT OF MR. BORDEN.

The announcement that Mr. R. L. Borden who was recently chosen by the Ottawa caucus as leader of the Conservative party, is about to make a tour of Ontario, will be received with considerable interest in this province. Mr. Borden is a native of the maritime provinces and comparatively unknown in Ontario. In his own locality, however, he has built up a most enviable reputation both in politics and at the bar, being a former partner of Sir Hibbert Tupper and closely associated with him politically.

There can be no doubt that so far as any existing tribunal of the party can select a leader Mr. Borden is at the present time leader of the Conservative party and should be recognized as such by the party. He was selected at the opening of the house by his fellow members to discharge duties which required immediate attention and has since exercised all the active functions of leadership in the House of Commons in a capable manner, and one apparently satisfactory to the men who selected him.

There is equally little doubt that the great mass of the Conservative electorate have a right to be consulted in the choice of their leader, and that they desire the question of the Conservative leadership to be submitted to a national convention which should be called during the present year and be thoroughly representative of all elements and classes of the party and all provinces of the Dominion.

It is quite possible Mr. Borden might be the choice of such a convention. On the other hand he might not. Until the convention is held, however, Mr. Borden should very properly be recognized as leader of the party and accorded all the honors pertaining to that proud position.

While the coming visit of the leader will doubtless be an interesting one in some respects it will certainly also be a painful one to the Conservatives of Ontario who will have the humiliation of seeing some of their own leaders occupying a subordinate position on the platform in their own province. The people of Ontario are ambitious for their leaders as well as for themselves, and had expected them to take a premier position in the party. Every man must be taken at his own valuation and if the Ontario leaders have not valued themselves very highly they must not expect the people to do so either. If they are content to be as small men they must be considered small men. But the proud province of Ontario which gave

them such splendid support expected greater things from its leaders.

However, the sins of the party should not be visited on the leader. Mr. Borden was tendered the leadership of the Conservative party by his fellow members and he accepted it. Since then he has honestly endeavored to do his duty to the party and has been most earnest and painstaking in the discharge of his duties during the long session just drawing to a close. He deserves every credit, both for assuming such large responsibilities as well as for the manner in which he has discharged them. Before assuming the leadership at all he had done good service in the ranks of the party and fought many hard battles on behalf of Conservative principles. It is only fitting, therefore, that Ontario should show in some form her appreciation of his work for the party, and THE ONTARIO TORY joins with the rest of the party in offering a courteous welcome to this eminent son of a historic province on his first visit to another province, which in the recent deluge which overwhelmed the Conservative party, rode like a mighty ark upon the waters, to preserve the Covenant of Conservatism to Canadians.

THE LIBERAL LEADERSHIP.

Rumor is busy in Toronto concerning the question of the leadership of the Liberal party at the coming election. The nervousness shown by Mr. Ross in postponing the election seems to have greatly weakened his prestige with his own party as well as in the province; and is apparently being used by an element of his party as an excuse for removing him from the premiership to the presidency of Toronto University, and elevating another man to the leadership of the party in Ontario. Mr. Ross is a statesman of the old school, a scholar and apparently entirely out of touch with the business element which is trying to get control of the party in Ontario for business purposes. It is possible, however, Mr. Ross was capable of more sagacity than his rivals give him credit for in introducing the bill to prolong the life of parliament. There are many Conservatives who suspected at the time that the bill was only introduced to prevent the opposition making campaign speeches in the House by creating an impression that the election would be delayed. If this is the case the malcontents in the party may not have time to effect their plan of reconstructing the ministry before the elections, and the old crowd will doubtless lead the Liberal party again.

.. The Ontario Tory ..

A Paper for the People.

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THE ONTARIO TORY of which the present is the first issue has been established to fight the battles of the Conservative party and vindicate the principles of the Conservative policy in the province of Ontario.

Owing to the decision to make the present number a news-number, devoted to reports of the proceedings of the party in the various constituencies, at Ottawa and in the city of Toronto, it has been impossible to publish some special articles on the principles of the Conservative policy which were originally intended for insertion in this issue and which will be a feature of the future issues of THE TORY. We hope in succeeding numbers to publish a series of carefully prepared papers promised by leading members of the party and dealing in a constructive way with the Conservative platform in Ontario, and also dealing critically with the policy of the government.

A special feature of the future issues of THE TORY as of this, will be reports of the various constituencies of Ontario. The purpose of such news as this, is to make the rank and file of the party thoroughly acquainted with the personalities and proceedings of the Conservative candidates who will be before the people in the coming elections in Ontario. This ground will be fairly well covered by our correspondents and agents, but THE TORY will at all times be pleased to receive reports or items of news from party workers throughout the province, regarding the position of affairs in their ridings. Letters or general contributions from the rank and file of the party will also always receive careful consideration and while nothing which tends to injure the Conservative party can be published in the columns of THE TORY we will never suppress any honest criticism of party methods, the purposes of which are remedial rather than destructive. The views of the humblest worker in the ranks will receive as careful consideration from THE TORY as those of its ablest leaders.

THE ONTARIO TORY will be considerably enlarged in future issues. The next issue will be a special Dominion Day number and will devote special attention to federal topics (unless the provincial election should come on in the interval). A feature of that

number as of others will be character sketches of leading Conservatives. An attempt will be made to promote the interests of the party by the publication of many bright and slashing criticisms of the Government, both in prose and verse and also to deal with the politics of hour in a more distinctive, original and aggressive manner than has hitherto been attempted in Ontario.

THE TORY has already received many warm assurances of support from leading members of the party in Ontario, who appreciate the work it is attempting and we are also daily receiving what we value quite as much, frequent and enthusiastic assurances from the rank and file of the party throughout Ontario, that they appreciate the paper that is established to fight their battles and will back it up to the finish.

AT THE CAPITAL OF THE NATION.

OTTAWA, MAY 15.

Well the long session is drawing to a close, and that's about the most sensible thing it has done. Holy Cæsar! What a graveyard the parliament of this country is becoming to be sure. One would think that men who wanted to die would choose a more respectable place and that men who wanted to live would give some indications of their vitality, but no there are a dozen men dying politically here every day for every one that is born.

What are their names?—Don't ask me that for I cannot afford to offend my friends, Romans (I mean Protestants) and fellow countrymen, in this dear old much trampled on province of Ontario. But they are well known to you up West. Most of them died in the party caucus, but some of them have dragged on a troubled existence since, bobbing up and down like flickering, expiring rush lights, on the floor of the house. Did they all die? O no. One could hardly say that Billy McLean was dead though some affirm it very violently, but Billy just smiles at these and bobs up serenely the day after they kill him. Certainly a most provoking corpse is Billy, and then there is Clarke Wallace who also shows frequent signs of vitality—very much so indeed at times, but "Clarke is more easily led," say the Tupper people. His friends up West will be startled to hear that about Clarke Wallace; but then he doesn't wear his regalia in the house. Some men down here are puzzled at the meekness of Clarke Wallace in the house. "Like Uriah Heep, he is humble," said a party whip to-day. "Where did he get his fighting reputation" asks a puzzled Conservative. But Clark will surprise them yet, if a party convention is held. Ontario always looks for great things from Clarke Wallace. And by-the-way it is an awfully funny thing how men who had big reputations in their own localities diminish when they get to Ottawa. There are men here, who judging from the press are high-cock-a-lorums in Toronto, and yet fail to impress any one very greatly with their greatness, when they get here. They subside as it were and cease to be impressive. Osler is not one of them. Osler is always impressive, because he thinks before he speaks. How few of us do that. And talking about Osler by-the-way reminds one of a funny report that has been

going around the lobbies about his latest thought—a grand scheme it is said to finish the Government shortly.

On the other hand it may be said that there is another class of politicians who create quite an impression in the house but are seldom heard of outside of it. These fellows who are quiet at home become audacious here where audacity is always admired when accompanied by intelligence.

The leadership of the party is still in the hands of Mr. Borden, who has been a very cautious leader indeed, but on the whole has carried things through much better than was anticipated. Under his leadership individual members have taken the initiative much more freely than under the old leaders who generally required to be consulted on matters of initiative, but Mr. Borden whether in his own interests or those of the party, has given his followers a great deal of rope and allowed them to do pretty much as they please, and they have certainly done what they pleased, not at all times perhaps in the interests of the party. Whether there would have been trouble if the leader had attempted to discipline his followers is a question much debated here. Some of them certainly were looking for trouble. Now that the session is closing however, members are inclined to take a long breath and thankfully remark "all's well that ends well!"

The most lamentable characteristic of the house to-day is the apotheosis of the "business-man" type of politician and the decline of the old time statesman of the Cartier, Macdonald, Chapleau, Blake, type. There are a lot of smart bustling fellows here on both sides who would look better in behind a counter or on the road than in a parliament, originally intended as the headquarters of orators and statesmen; agents of corporations, and smart Alick drummers, also abound in the lobbies and haunt the house like harpies hunting for prey. The old-time dignity of parliament seems to be departing. It is becoming too much like a board of trade or an assembly of drummers. Where are the grand orators and the grand orations of by-gone days? The man of dollars and cents abounds, but where are the men of ideas, the great statesmen, the masterful politicians, the keen, astute leaders of men and philosophic rulers of nations? People say they belonged to the by-gone generation, but why not to the next generation? Perhaps the country is in a state of transition between an old generation of statesmen and a new. What a glorious thing it would be if at the next election the house were suddenly flooded with splendid boys with high ideals and great ambitions and golden eloquence and love of principle. Wake up there in Toronto, and Quebec will give her share as she has always done in earlier days. We must clean out these sons of Midas and raise up a new generation of orators, soldiers, statesmen and gentlemen. Another thing that people are forgetting is their manners. The grand manners of the old time are not observable to-day. "Manners make the man," said Chesterfield. If so, there are very few men in parliament to-day. The modern politician is short and snappy in his ways. He is deficient in etiquette; he lacks finish; he needs grace and dignity; he is often vulgar and frequently not a gentleman. Of course there are exceptions, and one of them comes from Toronto. At the last elections Toronto sent to the house a man who combines the sagacity of the business man with the grace and courtesy of a true gentleman of the old school. We could stand a few more of those down here at the present time.

The work of the opposition from a party standpoint during the present session has been highly satisfactory. Many capable and effective speeches have been delivered by the members of the Conservative contingent from Ontario, while what the small Quebec element lack in quantity they amply atone for in the quality of their representatives. Mr. Monk has done good work this session, and so have the few French members on the opposition side. While some of the Maritime representatives from whom big things were expected have hardly come up to the mark, they have as a body done good work during the session. British Columbia has not given us anything very new but its representatives are of good fighting quality and always to the front, and the same may be said of the small contingent from Manitoba and the West.

On the other hand the Government have given a most amazing exhibition of disunion and incompetence. It seems impossible to find two ministers united on any one subject, and they have seldom shown anything like a bold front to the attacks of the opposition, or displayed that degree of strength and self-confidence which one would reasonably expect from a party possessing their numerical strength in the house. There seems little doubt that there are serious dissensions in the Liberal party and a certain element appear determined to get rid of Mr. Tarte. That worthy however is sublimely self-confident and will undoubtedly dominate the party so long as he can control the Quebec Liberals. But can he do so long? An element of his own party is said to be trying to undermine his influence in Quebec, and if they succeed he will certainly vanish from politics soon. On the whole, the Conservative members have every reason to congratulate themselves on the work of the first session which followed the elections. They have come up smilingly after defeat in a manner that augurs well for the future of the party and must create a most favorable impression on the country.

M. P.

THE RIGHTS OF THE RANK AND FILE.

The rank and file of the Conservative party have certain rights and we desire to assert them right here.

The rank and file be it known are the gallant boys and true who pull off their coats on election day and do the fighting for the party.

Of course they do this purely for love of the party for they are a lovable lot of boys—the rank and file—but it is not every one they love.

They don't love a party that betrays them—they don't love a leader that forgets them. They don't love the idea of winning battles and seeing other people reap the laurels.

They are peculiar—the rank and file.

Some leaders will think it awfully presumptuous for the rank and file to exist at all—after election day. They think that we should crawl into the earth like worms—but the rank and file are not worms.

And if the rank and file are not worms, God knows they are not fools. But God knows many things the leaders do not know who drink the wine of victory—and throw the cup away.

And another thing the rank and file have got besides their rights is—their memory. They do not forget things, the rank and file; and strange to say the men they least forget are the men who forget them. But this is not an auspicious memory to the leaders who forgot.

They remember the long hours of hard and patient toil to redeem the province of Ontario. They remember the heavy sacrifice they made, that the party might be saved from sacrifice.

They remember the warmth and enthusiasm they put into the fight believing the province they loved would reap the harvest they were sowing and wear in royal pride the royal crown they won her. Whoever else might fail or falter, weaken or waver, or fall away—Ontario must be true, said the rank and file—and Ontario was true.

Ontario was true to the Conservative party.

Has the Conservative party been true to Ontario?

The rank and file would like this question answered.

The rank and file are loyal to the party. Theirs is not the loyalty of the lip, but of the heart. Theirs is the loyalty that has been tested by adversity, and proved true as steel. They were with the party in the hour of its triumph. They are with it in the hour of defeat. They are always loyal, but they are intelligently loyal.

Sometimes in other days and parties the rights of the rank and file have been ignored. There has been discontent, protest, rebellion, conflict, and some one has always gone down—but not the rank and file.

Heaven help the leader that trifles with the people—but heaven will not help him. Its benediction is ever beneficently extended to the great divine inexorable multitude who ask just rights from unjust rulers. No leader should ever cringe to a mob, but the rank and file are not a mob. They are the friends of heroes; they are the warm, devoted, and enthusiastic followers of every man who proves himself a man and honors those who honor him.

Leaders like this have led the Conservative party, and the rank and file have rallied behind them. They recognized the rights of the people and they were the idols of the people.

The boys were always with them. The party supported them loyally. Never a whisper of discontent rose from the rank and file.

There have been leaders of the Conservative party who ignored the rank and file. The men who did the hard work of the party were treated with distant contempt. Brave hearts that throbbed in sympathy with Conservatism were basely trampled in the dust. Strong men who bore the party standard forward to repeated victory were flung aside, ignored, and never recognized. There have been leaders who scorned the rank and file. Where are those leaders now?

The rank and file are not chronic kickers. On the contrary they prefer to fall in line, but they can kick if the occasion requires it and do so with powerful effect. Let us hope the occasion will not require it.

The rank and file are the backbone of the party, and they cannot be ignored. They seldom assert themselves but they can do so with effect. Their voice is a powerful voice. It is an imperious voice. It is an honest voice. It is an unanswerable voice. It is the voice of the people.

The rank and file ask no higher privilege than fighting the battle of the Conservative party, fighting them unitedly and fighting them forever. But they like to have some definite assurance that it is for the Conservative party they are fighting—not a part of it.

The rank and file love a fighter. They love a fighting party. They love a fighting leader, but they like the party to fight for principles. They like the leader to have ideas; and they like him to fight the enemies of the party and not the rank and file.

The rank and file are the army of Conservatism. They don't wish to do the leading. They wish to be led. They wish to be well led. They wish to be led intelligently. They wish to be led to victory. When they are led to defeat they like to change their leaders. They fight with their eyes open. They know who led them well. They know the lights that failed. They know who deserves the whip. They know who earned the crown.

THE SPHINX.

THE GHOST OF OLD JOHN A.

He came up out of the grave at night

The ghost of old John A.

For he said "It's enough to wake the dead,

To see the way the party's been led

Since the hour I passed away.

"I left them high on a government hill,"

(Said the ghost of old John A.)

"They had the power, they had the till,

But somehow they didn't stay;

They had the place, and they had the will,

But they didn't know the way.

"I left them a sceptre of iron and gold

And set them in places high;

I gave them a policy brave and bold

And a motto 'never say die,'

But they melted the iron and spent the gold

And the people said 'Good-bye.'

"And merciful God the Grits are in."

(Said the ghost of old John A.)

"The men that the people rejected like sin

Who tried so often and couldn't get in

In an earlier, mightier day.

They have covered our golden palace with tin

And the dust of swift decay.

"There's Laurier, Cartwright, and Davies too,

That miserable parcel of Grits,

The whole of the hopeless, helpless crew

We used to knock into fits.

They've downed the old party," said old John A.

"The men that we left without a rag

And kicked around like a carpet bag

Are ruling the land to-day.

"And they've stolen our clothes," said old John A.

"Our robes of loyal blue,

And the Grand old flag we used to wave

Before they learned to be true.

And they've stolen the thoughts that were born
in our brains

And covered their tatters, and rags and stains

With our robes of loyal blue.

"We built a nation," said old John A.

And we built it strong and well,

As fair as the heavens of living light,

And strong as the gates of hell.

But they're spoiling the picture" said old John A.

"The thing we did so well."

He went down into the grave again

The ghost of old John A.

For he said "When the living are like the dead.

It's time that the spirit of life was fled.

From the land of dark decay,

But if ever the party produces men

Who can kindle life in its heart again,

This spirit will rise from the grave again

And dwell with it alway."

ITHURIAL.

❁ Among the Politicians ❁

THE conduct of Mr. G. G. F. Marter in voting against his party during the last session of the legislature has been the subject of much adverse comment in his constituency of North Toronto, and indeed throughout the province. Mr. Marter was the last man whom we would pick to desert the party at a crisis, and his conduct is entirely inexplicable except on one of two hypotheses, that he is dissatisfied with the party policy or that he is dissatisfied with the party leader. In either case his constituents are entitled to an explanation and they would like to have it at once. Mr. Marter is noted as a conscientious politician. In fact the most conspicuous part of his intellectual outfit for many years has been a conscience of abnormal proportions. This conscience he has never kept in the background or buried in the sand, but on the contrary he wears it proudly on his sleeve in order that all the world may see that it is not an ordinary hum-drum affair, but something quite exceptional. Now is the time for this conscience to get in its work and do a service to the Conservative party. We believe Mr. Marter is perfectly sincere. We believe that he has a genuine grievance. We believe that he can do a service to himself, his constituency and to the Conservative party which he, after supporting for thirty years, has so suddenly and strangely deserted—by stating frankly the conscientious grounds upon which he voted against his party at the last session. If there is anything the matter with the Conservative policy let us know it. If there is anything the matter with the Conservative leader let us know it. If there is nothing the matter with either of these, his constituents are reasonably justified in assuming that there is something the matter with Mr. Marter.

THE presence of this gentleman as an independent candidate in North Toronto would certainly complicate matters considerably, for if he can give sound reasons for his new political attitude he will certainly gain the support of a considerable element of the community and may cause the defeat of the straight Conservative candidate if the Liberal nominee is a man of any strength, or if the Conservative possesses any elements of weakness.

In connection with the Conservative nomination many names are mentioned. The most popular at the present time seems to be that of Mayor Howland, but it is doubtful if the latter could carry either the convention or the constituency if opposed by Ex-Mayor Shaw whose strength is in St. Paul's and whose friends consider he was very shabbily treated by the party at the last Mayoralty election. Other candidates mentioned are Dr. Wilson, Frank Arnoldi, K.C., Ald. Loudon, and Dr. Nesbitt. The two former are local men well known and popular residents of the constituency. The two latter are also well-known, but the party managers express considerable doubt if either could carry the constituency. The fight in the North should certainly be a very hot one both in the convention and at the election, and unless the greatest tact and good judgment is displayed by the Conservative leaders here the constituency will be lost to the party. The names most frequently mentioned for the Liberal nomination are J. S. Willison, L. V. McBrady, Wm. Roaf and Wm. Mulock, Jr.

IN South Toronto things promise to be very interesting. The name of the man who will ride the Orange horse has not yet apparently been decided. Some whisper the name of Chevalier Sheppard while others call aloud the cognomen of the patriot Nesbitt, but the Orange order, like Mr. Marter, has a conscience and will probably take itself seriously. A more probable candidate, though one not so frequently heard of, is a wealthy and capable Toronto physician who will certainly run if instructed to do so by the Order and carry the constituency hands down. But whether these instructions will be given is a matter very much open to discussion. The Orange order to-day is very largely controlled by Conservatives and it is probable that its members like the Conservative party itself are learning to appreciate the fact that the supreme test to which a public man should be subjected is the test of his capacity to serve the public rather than the question as to whether his Sunday-school teacher made him a Catholic or a Protestant. Mr. Foy has proved himself a capable representative, fair-minded in the discharge of his duties, always a Conservative first and a Catholic afterwards, and so long as he remains a Conservative first and discharges the duties he was elected to fulfil his religion is nobody's business but his own, and the Conservative capital of Canada can continue to teach to the rest of the Dominion the great lesson of toleration in politics by electing the leader of the Ontario Catholics as a representative of the most Protestant constituency in Canada.

THE candidature of Edmund E. Sheppard as an independent candidate in South Toronto would certainly be in the interests of the Government if a straight Liberal were also in the field. The political standing of Mr. Sheppard in Toronto at the present time is undoubtedly a very ambiguous one. A man of fine intellectual calibre who did good service to the party in his time, the tortuous course he has followed in politics has gained him a reputation for political insincerity which would dam any man who aspires to mould the character or opinions of a people who at heart are both honest and sincere, and who love to lay the foundations of their political faith on rocks and not on sand. And yet the fidelity of E. E. Sheppard to William Ralph Meredith was at all times admirable and proved him capable of a lasting political friendship and his fearless criticism of many outworn but influential orthodoxies indicates the possession of mental courage still. He is a striking example of that type of political freelance who breaks away from a party when a great leader falls. Let us hope the genius of Conservatism will be equal to the production of a man who can draw these scattered soldiers to himself and weld them into the finest regiment in the great army of Conservatism.

IN West Toronto things look easy for Mr. Crawford, but that is the region of political cyclones, and we hear there is one getting ready to make a break. It is said that a couple of wealthy Parkdale Conservatives who have large provincial interests are after the nomination and the friends of one declare that he will get the convention if he decides to run. But Mr. Crawford also has friends who will doubtless be there too.

THE friends of O. A. Howland, K.C., declare that if returned to the legislature at the coming election he will be Minister of Education in the Conservative cabinet. A better man for the position it would be difficult to find. There is no man in public life to-day who has higher political or intellectual ideals than O. A. Howland. A type of the highest Canadian culture he has followed with careful attention the evolution of the human intellect both in the æsthetic and economic spheres of thought. At a time when the tendency is to unduly emphasize the lower forms of education, and technical and manual training, he would stand for the development of the higher faculties, a free education of the people in art, in music, in literature and in æsthetics. He would inaugurate in Ontario a system of higher education like that of the Greeks where technical and manual training were always subordinated to that loftier educational idealism which developed the mind by abstract discussion of the problem of life and its motives; which developed the eye by keeping continually before it forms of beauty and exalted art ideals, which developed the voice by harmonic exercises that made it as melodious as the lyre, and beautified the body by kindling the spirit of beauty within it. When such a system of education as this is established by the Conservative party in Ontario the people of this great province will appear on the surface what they already are potentially—the finest race on earth.

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"WAY down East" Dr. Pyne appears to think he will be elected. Just what reason the popular doctor has for believing this is withheld from the public at the present time, but there certainly is a tradition to the effect that East Toronto is a Conservative constituency. We have it on the authority of an ancient Tory down East that the first man to represent this constituency was Adam, and that it remained Conservative till the Fall when it got discouraged and went Liberal, remaining so till the flood which purified the constituency and it became Conservative, being represented then by Noah, and since him by a long succession of Tory patriarchs and patriots.

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IN Henry Duncan the East York Conservatives consider they have a winner. He is certainly a strong candidate well known and liked throughout the constituency and thoroughly in touch with all classes of its people. He labors, however, under the disadvantage of being mixed up in local municipal politics. It is amazing what an amount of bitterness and acrimony can be developed in the discussion of a county council and a man who participates actively in these affairs is liable to offend the members of his own party as well as others by his attitudes on matters entirely foreign to the party policy. When Mr. Duncan accepted the Conservative nomination he should have resigned all minor offices and devoted himself solely to squaring himself with all classes of the electors of East York. There are several little things which have occurred since he received the nomination which seem likely to lose him votes he should retain, and the leader of the party might do well to have a talk with Henry on the philosophy of politics before the active work of the campaign begins.

* * *

If the leader before-mentioned were to take a stroll into West York as well when in the neighborhood, he might see a thing or two which would open his eyes,

and also his mouth. There is trouble in West York and only one way of healing it. Mr. St. John is one of the ablest men who sat in the legislature, and he is popular in W. York. He is a vigorous fighter, but something more subtle than vigor is required in the coming contest. It was the lack of this quality that caused his defeat in W. York at the last election, and he will certainly be defeated again unless his leader tells him what is wanted.

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THE statement that Toronto Conservatives are intriguing to depose Mr. Whitney from the leadership may be received *cum grano salis*. While there is certainly a disaffected element who claim that he is not in touch with the party in Toronto, and there are others who complain that he is too much subject to corporate influence, there is no reason to believe that these malcontents control the party at the present time. Every leader is subject to criticism and Mr. Whitney is certainly not exempt from it at the present time. He has shown both courage and sagacity in the house, but whether he is the most aggressive and sagacious politician in Ontario is a matter which the event of the election alone can determine. If the elections are postponed the matter will doubtless be discussed in the party convention.

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PEEL Tories say that the Liberal representative will have to put up the fight of his life to hold that constituency in the coming contest. The Conservative candidate is a hustler from away-back and is making great headway in the constituency. Unless something very unexpected occurs before election day the good old banner constituency of Peel will certainly be numbered among the Conservative gains.

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HAMILTON Conservatives are said to be considerably excited over a rumor in circulation in that town (and doubtless emanating from Liberal sources) to the effect that Mr. Carscallen had been refused the Attorney-Generalship in the Conservative cabinet in favor of Mr. Foy. When Mr. Carscallen was placed on the front benches of the Opposition it was generally taken for granted that he would be given a place in the next Conservative cabinet, and his friends were naturally as much elated at that time as they are now depressed. They consider Mr. Carscallen fully equal to Mr. Foy from a professional standpoint and if he has not shone so brightly as was expected in the debates of the legislature they say his obscuration was not due to self-suppression but to other influences which he could not control. Apart from the damper which this rumor has put on the enthusiasm of his supporters in Hamilton it is being used with much effect against the party in lodge circles where he formerly got considerable support.

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REPORTS from Ottawa state that Israel Tarte has promised Mr. Ross to take charge of the campaign in the Eastern Townships in person. The worthy Tarte has long entertained an impression (fairly well justified by the last election) that Ontario Grits don't know how to organize, and he proposes to show them just how to do it. Whether Quebec election methods will work in Ontario is a matter very much open to discussion, but the experiment will be watched with much interest.

In Glengarry there will certainly be a close contest. Grits who defeated Rory McLennan think they can defeat anything in sight, but D. R. McDonald is made of the right stuff and if properly supported by the party should canter in again at the finish.

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A RUMOR emanating from Parry Sound to the effect that W. R. Beatty is coming out as an independent candidate has caused considerable consternation in his constituency and no regret in Toronto where the fighting qualities of the major in the house were much admired by the gods. Here is the type of man most needed in the politics of to-day—full of dash and ginger and capable of forming strong personal friendships which may prove as useful to himself on election day as they are disastrous to the party which had not sufficient intelligence to retain him in its ranks.

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THE latest from North Wentworth indicates a largely increased majority for T. A. Wardell, the popular whip of the Conservative party who seems to grow steadily in the esteem of his constituents with the progress of time. No one has done harder or better work for the party than the able member for North Wentworth and the promising reports from his constituency will be received with much satisfaction by his fellow members. If the younger element of the party are to be recognized in the new cabinet a more efficient representative than T. A. Wardell it would be difficult to find.

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THE civil service brigade which was considerably out of gear at the last election is reported to be thoroughly reorganized now. These men who feel they are fighting for their lives will cause considerable trouble throughout the province and also in Toronto. A similar brigade is said to be getting into shape in Ottawa City, but the Ottawa Conservatives are confident nevertheless that they will defeat Lumsden this time and increase the majority of the Conservative representative by at least fifty.

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THERE is no one whose return to the house would be received with livelier satisfaction than Colonel Matheson, whose splendid fighting qualities on the floor of the house have gained him the soubriquet of "the bull-dog of debate." A most stubborn and tenacious debater, he probably worries the government by his persistency more than any other member of the opposition. It is only fitting that men of this character who have borne the banner of the party bravely in most depressing times and under most discouraging circumstances should be properly recognized in the hour of victory.

* * *

TORIES in South Ontario report that the defeat of Dryden is inevitable this time and calculate on over a hundred majority for their own man. We would advise them however to take no chances, as the minister of agriculture has got in some smart work with the farmers and strengthened himself considerably since the last election. The department which Mr. Dryden conducts gives him exceptional facilities for standing in with the farming community and while his administration has been by no means flawless the Conservative candidate in South Ontario will do well to rely more on his own strength than on the weakness of his opponent.

THE defeat of Chris. Kleopfer at the last election has inspired the Liberals up in the Waterloo direction with an idea that they own everything in that locality. They are now getting out with considerable energy on the trail of a gentleman called Kribs who has not so much money as Chris. but knows a thing or two more about politics. The chances are that this enthusiasm of the Liberals before mentioned will wane and flicker and die away as the day of battle draws nigh and suffer a sudden and painful eclipse at the psychological moment—for Kribs is out to win.

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THE selection of O'Brian to bear the Conservative standard in Brockville seems to meet with general approval in that constituency, though there are some who say there was a stronger man available. Nevertheless there are special reasons which it would be impolitic perhaps to mention here why O'Brian should carry Brockville where others might fail, and the general impression up there seems to be that he will succeed in doing so by a good majority.

* * *

THE Conservative party will make a great mistake if they act too much on the defensive in the coming elections. The work should be carried right into the enemy's country. There are many constituencies now held by Liberals which can be carried by a smaller expenditure of energy than is needed to hold others now represented by Conservatives. We refer not only to constituencies where the Liberal majorities were small but to others where they rose into the hundreds and in which the present representatives have lost ground considerably by their attitude in the legislature with reference to corporations and other matters, since the last election.

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JIM CONMEE in Algoma West is a striking case to the point. People who consider James invulnerable in Algoma, are making the mistake of their lives. He has been mixed up with many transactions in connection with the development of New Ontario, which have weakened him with classes of the community where he was hitherto strong. The refusal of the government to take him into the cabinet has done much to destroy his prestige, not only with his political adherents but among his co-religionists and also in the ranks of the business men to whom he has promised so many concessions on the strength of a political pull which now appears to be more visionary than real.

* * *

ANOTHER example to the point is the Premier himself. It has always been a puzzle to the public how Hon. G. W. Ross has managed to hold a constituency where he is so obviously unpopular as West Middlesex. It seems difficult to find a man in the constituency who displays any degree of enthusiasm for his leader and many of the most prominent Liberal workers are in a state of chronic rebellion. The cause of this of course is inadequate and unequal distribution of patronage. The elector in the Premier's constituency seems to think he should have first choice of every good thing going and one must do Mr. Ross justice of saying that he has not been over partial to his own constituents. But that is not the kind of justice his constituents appreciate, and it seems a foregone conclusion that he will be defeated in the coming election if the Conservative candidate plays his cards properly.

THE TORY doesn't take much stock in this Stock who is running against Nelson Monteith. If there is any one who knows how to fight a fight it's that same Nelson Monteith. He stands right in with the rank and file and that's how battles are won. South Perth is an interesting agricultural constituency and its live-stock is among the finest in the province, but there will be dead Stock there as well as live-stock when the election day is over.

* * *

ANOTHER Liberal who has lost ground since the last election is Andrew Pattulo. The honest electors of North Oxford who regarded Andrew as a paragon of political virtue, have been considerably shocked at his unqualified support of certain corporations and concessions which a paragon of political virtue would not touch with a forty-inch pole. There will be a man up against Andrew this time who will talk very earnestly to the honest electorate beforementioned.

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ANOTHER Conservative whom the Grits are hopefully preparing to squelch is I. B. Lucas, of Centre Grey. Their crowd up there say that Lucas got the nomination on a fluke, and is not popular with the electors, but no one who knows the constituency believes this for a moment. Lucas has proved an able and conscientious representative, one of the most fluent and best informed members of the legislature, and the Conservatives of Grey can make no mistake in returning him again.

* * *

THE splendid showing made by the Conservative candidate against Hon. Wm. Mulock in North York at the federal elections has greatly stimulated the party workers there to get out and defeat Hon. E. J. Davis. Though Mr. Davis is undoubtedly a strong candidate in many particulars, and fairly popular with the farmers, he is by no means invincible in North York and there are said to be several Conservatives of good standing up there who could defeat him if properly backed up by the party. North York so long a Liberal stronghold has been growing steadily more Conservative of recent years and if the party get right down to hard work and back up their man to the finish they should redeem the constituency this time. Much assistance could be rendered the workers of North York by the Conservatives of Toronto. The superfluous energy of the local workers might be directed into the constituencies which border on the city, and there is no field where such energy might be more effectively utilized for the good of the party than in North York.

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LIBERALS who are so confident that Mr. Whitney will be defeated in his own constituency apparently take it for granted that he will neglect his own affairs and spend the greater part of his time outside of Dundas as at the last election, but they are liable to be mistaken in this. The return of the Conservative party without its leader would certainly be a misfortune and though another constituency might be found for the leader it should not be forgotten that Dundas has hitherto been counted safe for the party. Our reports from Dundas by the way do not by any means confirm the statement of a dead set against Mr. Whitney current in Toronto, but on the contrary indicate considerable laxity in the Liberal organization there, but this is possibly only on the surface.

THERE seems to be considerable doubt as to whether John Richardson is coming out again in East York. The rumors which have associated his name with the County Clerkship have certainly weakened his hold on a constituency where the electors particularly admire independence in politics. John has knuckled around the constituency all his life and owed his success chiefly to his personal acquaintance with every man woman and child in its borders, but in this respect Henry Duncan is not far behind him. Each of these has been godfather to many children but there is said to be a falling off in this respect so far as John is concerned since the rumors of a government job got afloat. The best thing John can do is to settle up accounts with the Ross administration or run as an Independent Liberal. He has certainly been treated badly by the government.

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WHETHER the popular speaker of the house Hon. A. F. E. Evanturel will be found with the Liberal party when he resumes his place on the floor of the house is a matter very much open to discussion. Certainly the refusal of Mr. Ross to admit him to the ministry has given great offence to the French electors of Eastern Ontario and will undoubtedly help the Conservative party in Ottawa, Russell and other eastern constituencies. Mr. Evanturel has made a splendid speaker and if the French in Ontario ever became sufficiently numerous to be entitled to a representative in the government he would undoubtedly be the first choice for the position.

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IN South Bruce things are looking bad for R. E. Truax. This is a peculiar constituency but a Conservative candidate thoroughly familiar with its peculiarities would have a considerable advantage over his opponent whose conduct both with reference to the convention and otherwise has not been calculated to strengthen him with his own party. What the Conservative party need here is a couple of rousing speakers, for there are sleepy hollows in Bruce which need stirring up.

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THE indications are that the Conservatives will put up a hard fight against Hon. F. R. Latchford, in South Renfrew and their chances of defeating him are by no means so hopeless as the Globe would lead us to believe. It seems to be freely admitted even by his own party that Mr. Latchford has not proved by any means a source of strength to the government nor are there any indications up to date that he controls that element of the community which he was supposed to represent. His constituency has seen very little of him at any time, either before or after election day and he is certainly not the man whom South Renfrew Liberals would choose to represent them, if given a free hand at the party convention. South Renfrew is a constituency which if properly organized would give good results to the Conservative party and there is every reason to believe that if a strong local candidate were in the field he would gain a very large measure of support from Liberals as well as Conservatives in that constituency.

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THERE are few members of the house outside of the front benches who did better work than the popular member for North Ontario, W. H. Hoyle. He has apparently made a thorough study of all provincial problems and it is hard to catch him tripping

of the issues of the day. If North Ontario can succeed in sending a man of this stamp to the house again she will do good service to herself as well as to the Conservative party and the latest indications are that she certainly will succeed.

THAT stalwart member of the old guard, Andrew McCampbell, still fights as hard as ever in the front rank of the party. He is a splendid type of the man who bore the banner of Conservatism gallantly at a time when many flags were drooping and he bears it just as gallantly to-day. The reports of his retirement from active politics were received with much regret and we are happy to say had apparently little foundation. There can be no doubt that in the great battle before us he will be found in the thick of the fight and he will not fight this time in vain.

THAT yarn about the Conservative party raising a campaign fund of half a million by promising concessions to pulp companies, lumber companies, railroad companies, mining companies and various other companies and corporations if returned to power is on the face of it ridiculous. There is really very little of the province left to give away after thirty years of Liberal administration and even if there were the leaders of the great Conservative party are too high minded to follow the example of their political opponents and raise funds by mortgaging the public estate.

ONE consolation, however, the Conservative party will have when returned to power and that is that they can wipe a number of Liberal corporations out of existence in very short order. This man Clergue who is said to be subscribing so largely to the Liberal funds may yet wind up his career sawing wood in his native republic.

THE rumor above referred to however is interesting as showing what confidence business men have in the return of the Conservative party to power for it is in business circles that it is being circulated. When shrewd business men offer to risk twenty and thirty thousand dollars each on the return of the Tory party it's pretty safe betting the party is going in.

LIBERALS of Halton are said to desire a local man to represent the constituency. John R. Barber, whose business and residence are in Toronto, seems to have got out of touch with the party up there. A prominent farmer who has been active in politics, is mentioned as the candidate the local politicians desire. Whether they will get what they desire seems very doubtful, but the indications are that if they don't they will support the Conservative candidate who will be a man of much local strength and popularity in the constituency.

IF our opinion is asked regarding the Lambtons we can only say that Pettypiece will feel pettier when election day is over, but Pardee is pulling up well. That this is not the general impression we are well aware. Many Conservatives consider that Pardee is completely out of it and regard Pettypiece as a possible winner but the member for West Lambton has points in his favor which do not appear on the surface and which our man may by very adroit

manoeuvring succeed in putting him out. He is certainly handicapped by a difficulty which is not so obvious in East Lambton.

IT would be well worth while for the Conservative Organizer to investigate the politics of the farmers who are settling in New Ontario. If that locality is to be carved up into constituencies this is a matter of first importance. It may be reasonably presumed that the Ross Administration would not create new constituencies there if it were not convinced that the majority of electors are Liberal. Now there is no reason why Conservative farmers should not settle in New Ontario as well as Liberals if the game is going that way. So far as the emigrants from Europe are concerned they are largely in the hands of Mr. Clergue and Mr. Clergue is a gentleman who will have to be handled artistically.

WHEN Cardwell sent E. A. Little to the Legislature it did a most substantial service to the province. On the floor of the house he has done his duty well and his constituency may well be proud of him. If he presents himself once more as a conservative candidate there can be no doubt that he will retain the constituency by a largely increased majority.

THERE is a tendency to over-confidence in the Conservative ranks on account of the success of the party in this province at the federal elections, but it by no means follows that because the province went Tory in the Dominion elections it will repeat the performance in the local unless the same causes are present to justify that attitude. The fear of French domination, which was so powerful an influence against the government in the federal contest is not an issue now, and our candidates will do well to make their calculations with reference to provincial rather than to federal standards.

CHARLES BOWMAN, of North Bruce, has been appointed chairman of the Liberal machine, but he will be getting out of it soon and making a dash for his own constituency where there is trouble waiting for him. Charles is not going to have the easy time of it he had before. He will have his hands mighty full keeping his own head above water, without trotting round the province to save his fellow Grits from drowning. If he is to be chairman, the chair will be situated in North Bruce and it won't be any easy-chair either.

A constituency which the Conservatives are hopeful of winning is North Essex. This is a riding which has been never properly organized for the party. Local jealousies and the petty ambition of men whose intelligence is not equal to their aspirations have weakened the old party here for many years. The party now, however, is in a better position. The Liberal representative of North Essex, Mr. W. F. McKee, has been put on the front benches of the government, but his political advancement does not seem to be followed by a corresponding growth of enthusiasm on his behalf in his constituency. Though personally a man of considerable attraction he seems somehow to be unable to inspire among his constituents that degree of enthusiastic activity on his behalf or confidence in his capacity as a politician which will be necessary to ensure his success in the coming elections over the candidate who is entering the field against him.

THE work of A. W. Wright, as Conservative organizer, has on the whole been satisfactory to the party. Previous to the last elections there were many complaints that he talked too much and worked too little but his stock went up considerably after that event and he certainly deserves considerable credit for the work he did in certain constituencies. It is a great mistake however to apply the same method to every constituency. There are local peculiarities which require to be studied in every riding. Very often the result of an election turns on the idiosyncrasy of a township, a village or even of an individual and an organizer must display the greatest intellectual mobility in dealing with the various ridings. The TORY has an eye on at least six constituencies which were lost to the party at the last election by overlooking this important element of victory.

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CONSERVATIVES are offering even money that only one minister will be returned at the elections. Just who the lucky individual is is not definitely stated, but it may be reasonably presumed that it is Mr. Stratton, who seems to be looming up all around by the way as the strong man of the Government. On the other hand advices from Peterborough state that he has lost ground there since the last elections

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THE confidence which W. H. Charlton, professes to feel in his return for South Norfolk is by no means justified by the state of affairs in that constituency at the present time. The Liberals in this riding as in many others are said to be all tangled up over the question of patronage. It is hard to make one office go round a hundred men and in order to please one it is sometimes necessary to offend ninety-nine.

* * *

THIS is the trouble in South Norfolk and the grievance is one of long standing. Then there is the lumber question which is quite a sore spot with certain of the old guard. The man who is to carry the Conservative banner feels confident that he will surprise the province in South Norfolk and occupy for the next five years the identical seat in the legislature now held by Mr. Charlton.

* * *

WHILE hopefully working to gain constituencies from the enemy, the members of the Opposition will need to keep a sharp eye open if they don't wish to lose some of their own. There are several ridings now held by Conservatives which look decidedly shaky. We have already referred to a couple of these and there are others. There is urgent need to inspire new life into the party organization in certain ridings, where the members are relying too much on their reputation to carry them through. The weak spots seem to be well known to the Liberal organizers, who are showing considerable activity in directions where it will certainly be effective if not carefully and vigorously checkmated by the Conservative leader and organizers.

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THE latest M. L. A. to be re-nominated in his constituency is W. H. Taylor in North Middlesex. This is a riding the Conservatives had some hopes of winning some months ago but things have not been going so well with the party there of late.

THE fact of the matter is the leaders of the Conservative party must get out and talk things over with the boys in many constituencies in Ontario. If they are engaged in any other occupation they should throw up their other occupation and devote their entire attention to redeeming this province for the Conservative party. There will never be a great politician in this country till there is a professional politician who makes a study and business of politics as if it were a profession. Such a man would keep his fingers forever on the pulse of the people and know just what they want. The business of governing nations is not a thing to be down after office hours. All the members of the government are in a sense professional politicians, for that is their special occupation now, and the leaders of the opposition must be prepared to make a pecuniary sacrifice and devote themselves wholly to politics if they wish to carry Ontario, for nothing but work will do it.

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THE Grits seem to have made a dead set against Dr. Jessop in the Lincoln and Niagara district, but the Dr. is not troubling about that. He has done his duty to his constituents well and faithfully and has the constituency well in hand. Dr. McKinnon the Liberal man, is said to be the choice of the Government rather than the local men. He is a resident of Grimsby and fairly well known in the riding, but by no means in the same class with Dr. Jessop as a candidate for parliamentary honors. There are few men in public life to-day who take so deep and active an interest in the individual members of their constituency as does the popular Doctor.

* * *

THE prospects of Hon. Richard Harcourt retaining Monk, certainly look brighter than they did six months ago. The chief objection which Liberals seem to have to Mr. Harcourt is embodied in the complaint so frequently heard among the younger Liberals regarding him (as indeed regarding the whole ministry) that he is too academic and out of touch with the rank and file in his party and constituency. Nevertheless he has held Monk in spite of considerable local friction and may hold it again unless the Conservatives give a larger measure of support to their candidate there than they have done in former years. If the elections are postponed for a year it is possible Mr. Harcourt may not be a candidate. His name like that of Mr. Ross has been mentioned for the presidency of the provincial university and there can be little doubt that if the new element which is working to postpone the election and gain control of the Liberal party succeed in doing so as they doubtless will with the progress of time. Mr. Harcourt will retire from active politics and the nomination in Monk will be given to a wealthy Toronto man who has interests in that constituency.

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WE are pained to see so many editors contesting constituencies on behalf of the Liberal party. This is not what Providence intended editors to do, and yet it has ever been the mission of the journalist to court martyrdom for his convictions, and as most of these men are apparently tired of life, they might as well chose one form of suicide as another. If the editor of the *Globe* can muster up nerve to stand in North Toronto and go down with the rest, there will be sweet silence in intellectual barnyards where the roosters crow too loud and old hens cackle everlastingly.

A GOOD Conservative editor however is in the field in South Wellington and he is there to win. This is J. P. Downey, editor of the *Guelph Herald*. Liberals are very confident in Guelph since they carried the federal election, but Downey will down 'em swiftly. He knows how to put the policy of the party before the people, and when that policy is once put properly before the people nothing more should be required. Downey is supposed by some to be weak among the farmers. (Why an editor should be weak among farmer no one knows but the editor and the farmers), but we think this illusion will be dispelled on election day.

A CORKING, fine candidate was lost to the party when J. W. Moyes went down at the East York Convention. J. W. is full of fight and was pulling up well in the constituency at the time he lost the convention. We believe he could put up a good fight in North York also. He is the kind of man who throws himself right into a contest and never lets up till election day. Systematic as well as energetic, and always on the move, his chances for carrying East York were looking very bright at the time he left the convention. Men of this stamp should be nominated in every constituency, and it is to be hoped J. W. will yet find a place in the legislature.

THE expression "Let 'er go, Gallagher," as applied to the member for Frontenac, must not be interpreted to mean, "Let go that constituency, Gallagher," but rather "Let go (or let out) that strong arm which dropped the redoubtable Joey Haycock"—and land it again upon the head of J. R. Pense, the ambitious editor of that wicked paper, the *Kingston Whig*, who is battling like a straw against the stream of Conservatism as Liberal candidate in Frontenac.

IF FALLIS falls in East Durham it will be in the convention and not in the riding. No Grit is likely to down a Tory there, but some of the Tories think a younger man should carry the party banner. In this connection a couple of Toronto men are mentioned as possible candidates, one a lawyer and the other a physician and some think either would have a better chance to carry it than McCartney the local man who is after the nomination.

A RUMOR that W. F. McLean, M. P. was about to retire from Dominion politics and devote himself to provincial affairs for the next few years was in circulation some time ago and has been again revived. The splendid work done by Mr. McLean in fighting the corporations at Ottawa has been noted with great satisfaction by the Conservative electorate and there can be no doubt that his retirement from the federal arena at the present time would be something in the nature of a national misfortune. Nevertheless work of that character must of necessity be somewhat barren of results (except from an educational standpoint), so long as the party remain in opposition and the electors of East York seem to think that Mr. McLean might do more effective service for them for the Conservative party and for the great province of which he is one of the ablest sons, by devoting his energy and thinking powers to redeeming Ontario for the Conservative party. This is the work of the hour. The Conservative party needs a construction policy. Mr. McLean is a man of ideas and there can be no doubt that his presence in the provincial area would be a new inspiration to Ontario Conservatism.

A MAN most fittingly mentioned as successor to Hon. John Dryden, as Minister of Agriculture, is our own Thomas Crawford, the stalwart and popular member for West Toronto. The wealth of information and complete mastery of all subjects relating to this department displayed by Mr. Crawford in the debates of the house has been a source of much astonishment to those who were not aware of the fact that though representing a city constituency Mr. Crawford is one of the largest cattle dealers in America and in close touch with all classes of the farming community. There can be no doubt that if he takes charge of the department of agriculture the business of stock raising and especially the much neglected matter of breeding in Ontario a class of horses suitable for the British army—will receive a much greater degree of encouragement from the government than it has in the past.

THE preparation of campaign literature is a department of electioneering that has been much neglected by the conservative party in the past. In an intellectual province like Ontario where the people are peculiarly subject to the appeal of the pen, this is a form of campaign work which should be particularly effective if properly executed. The class of campaign literature distributed in past elections was by no means creditable to the party and was marked by an amazing lack of originality in its get up as well as in its subject matter.

MEN who aspire to mould the mind of people must study the mind of the people. This a psychological problem of acute interest to every statesman. Where men are governed by ideas everything depends on the idea submitted to them and a great deal on the way it is put before them. An idea appropriate at one time is not appropriate at another time, an idea judicious in one place is not judicious in another place. A great leader would advertise his party as a business man advertises his goods. He would put it before the people and keep it before the people until he had convinced the people it was the greatest thing on earth.

GRITS state that they were caught napping at the last election but it will not occur again. There can be no doubt they are better prepared this time than ever before. The surprise of the last election put them fully on their guard and every scheme that the party intellect can conceive will be brought into play to turn the coming election. Undoubtedly there will be a larger sum of money spent by the Government this time than ever before in an election in Ontario, but unfortunately for them this is known to the boys and rates are said to be going up correspondingly. Many of the best workers are said to be on the fence and this is particularly the case in the hard and fast Liberal constituencies.

The success of the Tories will be due to voluntary work. The party cannot afford to pay every canvasser and every scrutineer, and unless the rank and file can be roused to the proper degree of enthusiasm and inspired with a new energy which will induce them to take off their coats and get into the fight for love of the party and admiration of its leader—things will go ill with the Tories. In the days of John A. MacDonald there was never any difficulty about this. The very sight of him at a meeting, his simple presence in a constituency was enough to rouse the boys as no mercenary appeal could ever rouse them. Instead of

looking for money men opened their pockets and proudly contributed to the funds of the great nation-making party, and what John A. did by the power of his personality, others have done by the force of oratory or by the magic of the pen. These are the forces that sway the people far more than the gold that glitters, or the job that lures and these are the wings on which the grand party must soar to power in Ontario, if it is to rise at all.

THE HOPE OF CONSERVATISM.

The following contribution from a prominent member of the party who desires his name withheld for the present is an excellent specimen of the class of communications daily arriving at this office since the prospectus of the TORY was issued :

"I hail with pleasure the coming of your paper. We want something to liven up the Tory party. I take the name Tory in its literal sense to mean something that pushes—something progressive—as it meant progressive to John A. Macdonald. And such a progressive stimulus is badly needed in the Conservative party to-day. We must begin to assert ourselves on new lines. The old ideas have lost their usefulness. The Grits have outbid us in many directions. Their only defence, their only claim for support, is that they have beaten us out in patriotic measures and in national policy measures. So, if we are ever to displace them, we must go a good many steps forward and get right up and alongside of the new ideas. The Tory party must become again the reform party, the progressive party.

At present the leaders and managers of the party at Ottawa and in Ontario are afraid to move ahead. There is actually a more or less organized clique controlling both the provincial and federal Conservative organization, resolved to keep the progressive party men in the rear. These same men are still in touch with Tupperism and they would have Mr. Foster resurrected. To my mind, the disappearance of a large number of our old leaders in the late election was a distinct gain. But while these men have disappeared, the organization has remained in the hands of men whose only ideas are to look to the past. If the young Conservatives of Ontario have not come to the front, it is because the Tupperites at Ottawa are determined to block the way. Poor Borden knows nothing of this, he may learn it later on. But these ancient mariners must let fresh and younger seamen have a turn. Col. Tisdale, George Taylor and Samuel Barker have got it into their heads that Tupperism and an alliance with the corporations is the way to power. These are the men who put Mr. Osler, against his wish, to be the financial critic of the party. As for Mr. Whitney, he must shake himself into a more advanced frame of mind. He is under the influence of the back numbers. Don't let us deceive ourselves, we have not yet straightened ourselves out, we have not got rid of the old leaven. But the great rank and file of the party is alive, is clean, is honest, is patriotic, what it lacks is intelligent guidance and a few men of courage and who are not afraid to launch the future of the party on the sea of new ideas.

It is the mission of such a paper as yours to enlighten our party, to tell it what it needs to know to give the holdbacks notice that progress is to be the word hereafter."

ISAAC.

THE PEOPLE MUST SPEAK.

THE voice of the people may be the voice of God, but the voice of a party caucus is not the voice of the people.

There is nothing more dangerous to the well being of a party than the tendency of a few men to arrogate to themselves the control of the party organization and conduct it in their own interests without reference to the desires of the rank and file, or the desire of the party as a whole.

Every organism, physical or political must have a head and should be directed from above, but the head should be in touch with the body and act perpetually in harmonic unison with the innumerable other organs of the party politic whose functions if less conspicuous are not less important than its own. The great heart of the party will not beat in sympathy with a head which ignores its existence and scoffs at its deepest emotions.

This is the trouble with the Conservative party at the present time. The leaders are isolated from the rank and file. There is a great and yawning gap between the head and the body of the party. There is no apparent continuity of action or community of purpose between the mass of the Conservative electorate and the class who profess to lead and represent them.

During the lifetime of John A. Macdonald everything went smoothly. He kept in touch with the boys and studied the mind of the masses. His finger was on the pulse of the people. He knew what they wanted, when they wanted it, and why they wanted it. Always fertile in expedients and a master of political artifice, he allowed no breach to linger in the party ranks and kept continually before the minds of the various party workers in every constituency the fact that their personal interests were identical with interests of the party as a whole and that the success of the Conservative party would promote the well being of every man who was active in promoting the welfare of the party.

Sir John Thompson and Sir Charles Tupper were leaders of great ability who commanded the respect of the party, but it is very much open to question if they ever commanded its affections in anything like the same degree as the leader who preceded them. They stood aloof from the rank and file and Sir Charles especially, though always admired for his aggressiveness and splendid fighting qualities managed somehow to convey to the boys an impression that he could manage the party without their assistance and this being the case of course they did not assist him. When the mass of the Conservative electorate are permitted to have a share in the government of the party they take an interest in the success of the party, but where the leaders say to the people—"We are very important men, we can run this party ourselves, we won't trouble you to do anything but kneel," the electorate lose that personal interest in the success of the party which comes from a personal participation in the formation of its policy and the selection of its leaders. But no leader can afford to dispense with the assistance of the party electorate any more than the head can dispense with the body and when he attempts to do so the result is defeat and disaster and utter confusion. The result of the last two elections should surely have taught this lesson to the Conservative party—that a leader who has not sufficient intelligence to control his own party, has not sufficient intelligence to govern the Dominion of Canada. It was a perception of this fact which caused the people of Canada with unerring instinct to reject the party at the polls.

After the defeat of the first Tupper ministry, the Conservative party began to do some thinking, and gradually saw the point. During the five years following Sir Charles made a most capable and praiseworthy attempt to grasp a political situation which had passed beyond his control during his prolonged absence from the country. But probably for the reasons we have already indicated, the great body of Conservative electors did not respond sympathetically to his efforts except in the Province of Ontario where they were powerfully seconded by an able group of local men.

At the last federal election in Canada the banner of Conservatism was trampled in the dust by every province in Confederation but the great Province of Ontario. Here alone was the party honored. Here alone were its principles endorsed, and here alone was the seal of popular approval placed on the Conservative policy. When every other province deserted the grand party, Ontario stood true and the simplest elements of political gratitude require that the party should mark its appreciation of the services which were rendered it by Ontario by exalting to the controlling position in its ranks the sons of old Ontario. The position of the party would be undoubtedly strengthened at the Ontario election by having as leader of the Conservative party in the Dominion a son of this great province which adhered to the standard of the Conservative party when every other province had deserted it. On the other hand there can be no question whatever that the Conservative party in the province will suffer a most substantial loss of popularity with the Conservative electorate in Ontario if they insist in refusing to recognize the rights of the royal province to an ascendancy in the councils of the party proportioned to the services which it has rendered the party. We have no fault to find with Mr. Borden and will support him loyally so long as he is leader, but we believe the choice of the caucus should be submitted to a national convention, for the Conservative party cannot afford to alienate the affections of the rank and file of the party who fought their battles here and now demand recognition at their hands. Fidelity should not be rewarded by kicks; fires of enthusiasm should not be quenched by insolent contempt, nor splendid services rewarded by base ingratitude. Ontario will repudiate the men who repudiate Ontario. We believe the Conservative party will repudiate them also. The rights of Ontario must be vigorously asserted and THE ONTARIO TORY is here to assert them.

The Conservative party must take the people of Ontario into its confidence. It must take the people of Canada into its confidence. A grand national convention should be called this year to consider the question of party policy and party leadership. The leaders must shake hands with the rank and file and all elements and all classes of the party from all the provinces and constituencies of Canada, should work harmoniously together to promote the highest welfare of the great Conservative party, whose history is the history of Canada, and whose success will be the salvation of Ontario.

At the present stage of Canadian politics everything must be subordinated to the supreme consideration of redeeming the Province of Ontario for the Conservative party. It has been very properly remarked that "the road to Ottawa lies through Queen's Park." If we get this we will get the Dominion later on. Now if this is the case the wishes of the Ontario Conservative must be considered first in the formation of the party policy and the will of Ontario

should dominate the councils of the party. Mr. Whitney is not going to get votes either in Quebec or Nova Scotia. His friends are in Ontario and those friends must not be alienated or ignored by the party.

It will be a most shameful, a most unpardonable thing, if that gallant band of political heroes who have fought so hard, so long, and so bravely to redeem the great Province of Ontario, are to be sacrificed to the unjustified ambitions and intrigues of politicians whose negligence of duty and incapacity in their own little provinces caused the defeat of the Conservative party at the last federal election. The men whose regiments went down broken and shattered in the battle must not dictate to the fighting Conservatives of Ontario who bore the banner of the party to glorious victory here on the same memorable occasion.

The proper solution of the whole matter is a national convention. A great popular event of this kind held on the eve of the election would do much to wake up the party and fill it with new enthusiasm. The rank and file would be made to feel that they were an integral part of the party machinery. The leader, whoever he might be, would feel that he had a united party at his back, and the workers would leave the convention to throw themselves into the battle before them with an enthusiasm that was irresistible.

CICERO.

AT THE ALBANY.

The eminent politician who talks at dinner as though he were addressing a mass meeting, is, strange to say, the very man who talks at a mass meeting as if he were eating his dinner.

The winter is over but Snow has not yet melted—in fact he seldom melts.

Our amiable K.C. is quite a bird—when he is not a K.C. The party made him a K.C. but Providence made him a bird—from which it must logically follow that he is more of a bird than a K.C.

Members who object to A. E. because he makes baskets should remember that Moses was born in the bullrushes and subsequently mingled with princes.

This report from South America that our distinguished expert had been engaged to build the Nicaragua canal is on the face of it absurd. It stands to reason that a man who could drink the Atlantic ocean won't want to build the Nicaragua canal.

Johnnie comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb. Claude comes in like a lamb and goes out like a lion.

If the philosopher would play cards with his coat off he would play cards more frequently.

John and Eddie never fail in their duty to their fellow-countrymen, and the fellow-countrymen of Eddie have not failed in their duty to Eddie, but John has yet to get justice.

Why should the pugnacious one be left in the cold? Shall not old memories wane and die away? Men he kicked around that awful day are with us still, but he has got the balm of Gilead now—but still—but still—the club is newly furnished.

When Percy smiles his smiles are worth observing. O there are smiles and smiles and some are mixed with water, some we take straight, and some we take too often, but still the club is like a summer day—when Percy smiles.

THE DUKE.

The War Horses of Torytown.

The first political campaigners on earth are found right here in Torytown.

The boys are feeling anxious for that election. Hustle up Ross, the war horses are pawing the ground for the fray.

Will someone arbitrate that everlasting racket between Frank Somers and John Cuthbert as to who elected Brock. Frank says he did all the work himself and killed six horses while John was mixing drinks. John says he rolled in a straight hundred an hour all day long while Frank was loafing around the corner telling the boys to hustle. Well its mighty hard to decide.

Another trying controversy goeth on between "Canada First" Mac and "Toronto Forever" Mac, as to who elected O. H. Howland to the mayoralty. This threatens to be serious.

The two Johns won't have to fight so hard for their licenses next year, everything will come easy when the old party is in. The Johns have never hid their heads under a bushel like some other hotel men, but get out on the platform every time.

The uncle of East Toronto is spending the summer on his estate in Muskoka. Toronto Conservatives will learn with regret that Sammy Bridgeland, M. L. A. played a low down trick on Uncle last summer by getting over the fence at night and measuring the lake where that famous fish was caught. Subsequently a report appeared in the *Globe* to the effect that the lake was smaller than the fish—which injured Uncle in the estimation of his fellow countrymen. This year Uncle has taken a pail of water with him to fix up the lake and a shot gun to settle Sammy.

Andy Keeler is panning out well as president up west. Some of the boys were hopeless when John Laxton dropped out of the office game, for he and Claude Macdonald have run the show up west so long and so well that it seemed the pillars had fallen in the house of Conservatism up west. Of course there is a big difference between No. 4 and No. 5 but Laxton is a power in both. However, Andy is up to the mark. He can do the trick all right, and stands in well with the boys.

Tories who remember the anguished tone in which Ald. E. S. Cox announced the results from Quebec on election night, will be pleased to learn that he still survives and is bearing up quite well. Since that horrible night the noble alderman has tried to drown his grief by plunging into the giddy dissipation of municipal politics, and is this year chairman of the Reception Committee. Visitors from the Pan-American will have the privilege of shaking hands with one of the best Conservatives and truest British subjects on the North American continent, and the boys say if the Ald. announces the right kind of results next election day they will make him mayor of Toronto.

The veteran H. A. E. Kent still looms up powerfully in No. 4. H. A. E. ought to understand the game of politics pretty well by this time and certainly the party never got such a shaking up as he gave them in that famous Temperance Hall Convention. That was too cleverly done. H. A. E. is all right.

The machine this year is quite out of the ordinary. W. J. Hambly presides, and C. C. runs the show

occasionally. Quite a change from Bristol-Macpherson days when somebody else ran the show and C. C. did the kicking.

Down east Dr. Noble is looming up very finely. The Doctor is the right kind of stuff and right in touch with the rank and file. He is a good Conservative, but not the kind that are sat upon, has his own ideas about running a party and is not afraid to state them, and the boys admire him for it.

John Hewitt is another Easterner who has ideas of his own—perhaps somewhat stronger than the Doctor's. He has given the party trouble in his time, but there is not a straighter or more capable man in the ranks to-day than that same Hewitt. He does not dance to any party whip but thinks before he speaks. Such men are always the strongest pillars of a party that does its duty to the people.

Some of the boys are kicking up a deuce of a row because the census commissioner is putting them down as French Canadians. Holy Moses! Just think of it. Francois Soimaies, Georges La Kappelles, Edourd Du Vernet, Kellie L'Evens, Jacques Cuthbert. It is thus Sir Wilfred gets even with men like Frank Somers and John Cuthbert who did him up at the last election.

"Is Danny Lamb a Conservative?" writes a correspondent. We answer "Danny is" but not so conspicuous a Conservative as he might be. At a time when politics are beginning to play a part in municipal life Danny will doubtless perceive the advisability of getting out to hustle for the party.

A good man was lost to the City Council when Ex-Ald. Bowman was put out in the west. A smarter or more zealous alderman seldom got into the council than that same Ex. and a gamer fighting Conservative is not in the party to-day.

Another Tory who lingers still among us youthful and ardent as ever, but somewhat out of the game is Ex. Ald "Tom" Davies. Fellow Tories in talking to him drop hateful "Ex" for they remember that "Tom" was the first man to originate the phrase. "Wise men come from the East" but he hates to say it now—since Cox got in.

The machine this year consists chiefly of the ever-popular C. C. and should play some stirring tunes if anybody does any kicking. The man C. C. would prefer to see kicking is W. D. McPherson, but he wouldn't mind suppressing Ed Bristol or R. S. Neville or any other vanished dignitary who played the high and haughty Czar when C. C. was kicking himself. Some of the boys think C. C. should jump into the fight this year as a candidate for the legislature either in Toronto or E. Durham where the party is looking for a fighter.

Jim, who keeps tab of those things sends in the following: "The man who died of small-pox was a Grit. Out of nineteen cases of scarlet fever in the ward—eighteen were Grits, (one independent—this was a mild case). Out of nine cases of diphtheria, nine were Grits. Out of 2018 cases of blue ruin 2018 were Grits. The man who fell down stairs and broke his neck last week was the very Grit who tried to personate G. R. R. Cockburn at the last election but forgot the whiskers. He is now dead. This shows how Providence punishes the men who votes against the party in the ward.

Is Johnnie Greer still Napoleonic in the East or is the moon of his mightiness beginning to wane. This is a question which worries the mind of a would-be candidate, who wouldn't be a candidate very long if Johnnie is still Napoleonic.

Wing Li says: "Me thankee Godee me no have washee dirty linen Gritee party. Me think all Chineese wash forever no get cleane Gritee party."

"There's murder in the air,
There is murder in the air,
And the bi's will all be there,
And the bi's will all be there."

The above beautiful roundelay refers to the approaching pandemonium in that to-be historic convention. You can't fool the same crowd twice.

Friends of the patriot say he will smash the hierarchy and the machine at one blow if refused the nomination of the North, by running against J. J.

Foy in South Toronto. We don't know what state of health the hierarchy is in just now, but the machine in Toronto is a brand new one—made on a new patent. We hope to publish a cut of it before the smash.

The lion of the North is not doing a thing these days. Just sawing wood, mixing bricks, thinking thoughts and getting ready. You can't work the same trick twice.

If the Conservatives desire to run a man of the rank and file in the North THE TORY names Jacob Schone. Jacob is one of the splendid stalwarts who have done the fighting in old St. Paul's for many a year. The labor party have not been properly recognized by this party. We hope to publish an article on the rights of the laboring man in a future issue of this paper. But Jacob is not an ordinary member of that class. The hardest work he has done has not been done for himself but for the Conservative party. All honor to men like this. The party they fight for must honor them.

Jacob is one of a group of men who have hung together in old St. Paul's for many years and quietly got in their work for the party and never got anything for it but the consciousness that they had done their duty. A splendid lot of stalwarts we hope to see them at the convention, and if they wish one of the boys to get the nomination THE TORY will back him up.

Another like Jacob is found up west in the person of John R. John had to fight for his existence a few years ago on account of the services he rendered the party. He never sneaked into a back parlor meeting of the party and stayed away from the platform but came out boldly and honestly for his party at the risk of losing his license. These are the men whom the party must fittingly reward when we take up our camp in the Queen's Park.

"Is Alexander Muir a Conservative?" You bet he is. How could he have written "The Maple Leaf Forever," if he wasn't a Conservative? Alex tells us he remembers the day the bon-fires were lit in Queen's Park to celebrate the birth of that masterpiece of Conservative statecraft—the Dominion of Canada. Alex. got a little disgruntled at the time of the Equal Rights agitation. Like many another Conservative he admired D'Alton McCarthy and had ideas of his own about the way the party was run on certain occasions. But men of ideas are what we want to-day and Alex. is with us.

A stalwart of the first order is Alf. Wigmore the man who stops fires and protects the city alike from

burglars and Grits. Alf. also has a reputation for starting fires in the party too if anyone in the machine business tries to trample on Alf. He backed up John A. Ferguson in his memorable "and shall Trelawrey die" campaign and may always be found on the side of freedom of speech. Alf. didn't get a fair chance at E. J. Heron in that Macdonald club campaign but when he does the boys say there'll be blood on the moon.

The good fight put up by another Alf., S. Alf. Jones to wit against Billy Patterson in Brant, was a source of joy to the war horses who knew him in Toronto. S. Alf. is noted here as one of the slickest canvassers in Toronto. This reputation he made in running for the school board. Why S. Alf. is slick, as a canvasser it is not for the boys to say.

That school board by the way, seems to be quite a burying place for rising politicians. Many a hopeful politician who entered it with a view to growing wings has stopped right where he was and grown nothing but grey hair instead. Many an ancient is there to-day who was a hopeful years ago, and many a hopeful is there to-day who will be an ancient in a few grim years. All of which illustrates the wisdom of the philosopher who remarked "God preserve me from all small victories."

O. B. Sheppard is still among us and still of course with the party. O. B. is a good type of that class of men who get mixed up in the small business of school boards and city councils and are lost to the service of the country. By-the-way, for a man who sees so much of the dramatic O. B. is very seldom dramatic on the floor.

A Conservative of the best class is Dr. Thompson. The Doctor has done good work for the party very frequently. He too is a man of ideas and strong convictions and it is pleasing to see him bringing them to the service of the party. The Doctor can always be relied upon to stand in with the rank and file.

Major Phil. Drayton is still among us. Phil. has his own ideas as to how a party should be run but it is not everyone that can find them out. Phil. was a Conservative though from the start out and will remain a Conservative till the finish, and as for those ideas—why of course they are too precious to be given away.

Charley has returned from California. Friends of Charley declined to believe that he had been in California until he produced an orange with eleven pips. Whereupon Charley (after some delay) produced that orange, but no sooner did he produce it than some one charged him with stirring up sectarian strife in this fair Canada of ours. Whereupon Charley divided the orange into halves, gave one half to an Orangeman and the other to a Catholic, and ate the pips himself. Query—Is Charley a Catholic or a Protestant?

W. J. Hambly, formerly known as "Bill" Hambly, among the boys down east, is this year head of the machine. What sort of a head he will make the boys are not quite certain, but his record is the best. Some say he was intended to do the picturesque only but they don't know W. J. who has a mind of his own and somehow doesn't seem so far away from the rank and file as other presidents have been. A better man to heal up ancient trouble it would be difficult to find, and let us hope that under his presiding genius the party will always stand in with the people, do its duty to the province that honored it, and work in harmony for victory.

THE DARK HORSE.

THE ONTARIO ELECTION.

In spite of the elaborate announcements of the *Globe* about the postponement of the elections and the trip of the Premier to Europe, there are several indications that the elections will be held this year. Many Liberals make no secret of the fact that they were opposed to a postponement and it is said that certain large corporations whose interests require a Liberal government in Ontario have become keenly conscious of the fact that the Conservative party is gaining strength with every day that passes and that an election twelve months from now would be a Liberal funeral. It is common gossip in Toronto that these men are quite prepared to pull down the present ministry and organize a government which is not in the undertaking business. There is now a rumor abroad that the Ross administration is riding for a fall on instructions from an element of the party at Ottawa who believe that the interests of the Liberal party as a whole would be best served by a few years in opposition in Ontario.

Whatever truth there may be in these reports the Conservative party can afford to take no chances. Even a year is too short a time for the work that needs to be done. We believe Mr. Whitney can force on an election any time he desires, but he certainly cannot compel a postponement, and the party will do well to stand at arms and be ready for any emergency. Every sword should be out of its sheath, every gun should be loaded, every arm should be girded for battle. It may be a month, it may be a year before victory but the battle commences to-day.

The reports current during the last few days that Mr. E. B. Osler was about to enter the arena of provincial politics as an active supporter of Mr. Whitney have been received with much interest and satisfaction in Ontario. Mr. Osler is one of the few parliamentarians of the present day who could be classified as a statesman of the first order. As a thinker he can do the party in Ontario good service by outlining a comprehensive scheme of organization, while on the platform his luminous oratory will be of substantial value to Mr. Whitney.

There is another department of provincial politics however, where the services of Mr. Osler would be of especial value. We refer to the finances of the province. After thirty years of Liberal administration the financial affairs of the province seem to be in such a mixed up and tangled condition that it will require a man of the first order and one thoroughly familiar with figures to ascertain the true financial condition of Ontario at the present time and explain it to the people. By all sorts of shifts and devices the Ross administration have succeeded in finding a surplus to present to the people. In fact they never went to the country yet without making up a surplus of some kind, but it may be very safely predicted that when Mr. Osler looks into the finances of this province he will discover a horse of an entirely different color and deal a strong and sudden death stroke to that entirely abnormal and mystical creation—the Liberal surplus in Ontario.

The meeting to be held in Toronto next week to perfect the organization for the coming elections will be one of great importance. Mr. Whitney is wise to lose no time in getting the machinery of the party into working order. The tour of the ministers should

be followed up immediately by the Conservative leader and his lieutenants. Great open-air demonstrations and political picnics should be held all over Ontario. There is no better time for political propaganda than the holiday season when men are at leisure to listen and read.

More attention should be given to the spectacular side of organization which plays so large and effective a part in political demonstrations across the line. Whatever appeals to the eye of the people appeals to their minds. Clubs should be organized in every town and village of Ontario. These should have their bands and banners, their glee clubs and orators, and hold frequent processions and demonstrations. Stirring literature should be circulated through the province and the party orators should be told to drop the "dry-as-dust" style of speaking, and speak out boldly with evangelical fervor and talk with tongues of fire and words that move and thrill the hearts of men.

GET READY FOR THE FIGHT BOYS.

(CAMPAIGN SONG.)

Get ready for the fight, boys,
The war is coming on
The Grits have been the night boys
But we will be the dawn.

For thirty cruel years, boys,
The land in darkness lay
And hostile hands uplifted
To progress barred the way,
But the sands of time have shifted
And we will win the day.

While other lands were reaping
The fruits of wealth and fame,
Our royal land was sleeping
And bound in bonds of shame,
But time will burn the bonds, boys,
And we will be the flame.

The splendid hour draws near, boys,
The evil hours are past,
Bring out the good old flag boys
And nail it to the mast,
Come woe, come weal, or battle,
We'll fight for it again
And by the God of Justice
We will not fight in vain.

They cannot rule forever
Whose rule is not for right,
They cannot bind forever
The eyes that seek the light,
They cannot hold forever
The wings that seek to rise,
Or bind in lowly prisons
A race that sees the skies.

Get ready for the fight boys
The dark clouds roll away,
The Grits have been the night, boys,
But we will be the day.

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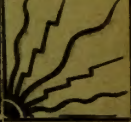
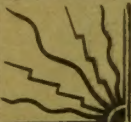
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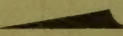
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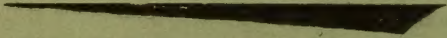
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